

Jeanette L. Brown

Mrs. Jeanette L. Brown serves as the Director for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As Director, Mrs. Brown is responsible for ensuring that small, disadvantaged, and women-owned firms are provided an equitable opportunity to receive a "fair share" of sub-agreements and contracts through the development and implementation of policies and procedures to aid minority and small women-owned entities doing business with EPA, and through internal and external raining programs to enhance the capabilities of socioeconomic firms in becoming more competitive and viable in the EPA procurement arena.

Prior to her current position, Mrs. Brown served as the Deputy Director of OSDBU and the Deputy Director of EPA's Office of Acquisition Management. Prior to her tenure at EPA, Mrs. Brown served as the Director of the Office of Procurement and Grants Management and the Director of the Division of Program Development for the Minority Small Business Capital Ownership Development Program (more formally know as the 8(a) Program) at the Small Business Administration.

Mrs. Brown has more than 27 years of contracting experience in various federal agencies, including the Navy Regional Contracting Center, the Navy Automatic Data Processing Selection Office, the Joint Cruise Missile Project/NAV AIR, the Small Business Administration, and EPA.

In 1980, Mrs. Brown graduated from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, where she received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She also attended graduate school at American University in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Brown began her career in 1978 as a Navy Cooperative Education (CO-OP) student, and began an internship at the Navy Regional Contracting Center after graduation. She is native of Richmond, VA, where she attended Richmond public schools.

Debora N. Bradford

Debora N. Bradford is the Small and Disadvantaged Business Coordinator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6, Dallas, Texas. Ms. Bradford has been involved in the Agency's Minority and Women-owned Business program (MBE/WBE) since 1990. She oversees the small and disadvantaged business requirements for EPA-funded projects in the Region 6 five-state area, which includes Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Ms. Bradford provides assistance to the regional assistance and acquisition personnel in implementing the Agency's socioeconomic requirements. Ms. Bradford also participates with other area agencies in conducting socioeconomic workshops and conferences.

Adrianne M. Callahan

Adrianne M. Callahan is currently the Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Coordinator (SDBU) and the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women Business Enterprise (WBE) Coordinator for the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5, Chicago, IL. As the SDBU and MBE/WBE Coordinator, Mrs. Callahan is responsible for the socio-economic programs carried out through the Region's acquisition and financial assistance programs. The programs include, but are not limited to, the Small Business Set-Aside program, the Small Disadvantaged Business program, the Historically Underutilized Business (HUBZone) program, the Women-Owned Business program, the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program, the Service Disabled Veterans program, and the Fair Share program under EPA financial assistance agreements.

Mrs. Callahan has been instrumental in increasing EPA Region 5's small business outreach efforts by: 1) co-sponsoring an annual small business conference for veterans in conjunction with Veteran's day; 2) holding monthly counseling and capabilities sessions with small businesses; and 3) helping to identify MBE/WBE firms to State agency assistance agreement recipients. Previously Mrs. Callahan held regional positions as an Urban Initiative Manager (Detroit), responsible for implementing EPA Region 5's Great Cities initiative and management support positions that directed internal agency funding dollars.

Patricia Durrant

Patricia Durrant is a proud 1979 graduate of Shaw University, a Historically Black College or University. While at Shaw University, she completed the Reserve Officers Training Corp, (ROTC) program and served 14 years in the US Army as Company Commander and Executive Officer. Ms. Durrant retired as a Captain with the USAR in the AG Corps for Personnel and Administration Division with a secondary specialty in the U.S. Postal Services. She obtained her Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Averett University in 1992.

Ms. Durrant has worked for several Federal Government Agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Army, DCAA, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Durrant joined the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in July 1986 as an Auditor, Contracting Officer, and Project Officer. During her tenure at EPA Ms. Durrant has worked in the contract arena with the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and with the Office of Acquisition Management.

Cassandra R. Freeman

In April 2005, Cassandra R. Freeman was selected as the Deputy Director for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). She serves as the senior level advisor to the EPA OSDBU Director and Senior Program Manager for socioeconomic programs. Ms. Freeman works to assist and guide small businesses in their attempt to enter and maneuver the federal contracting and assistance arena.

A native of Washington, DC, Ms. Freeman attended Howard University, majoring in Political Science. She transferred to the University of Maryland University College, receiving a B.S. in Business and Management. She holds an M.S.A. in Public Administration from Central Michigan University and an M.S. in Management with a concentration in Procurement and Contracts from the University of Maryland University College.

She has over 18 years of federal contracting experience, starting as a Government Contracts Paralegal with the Department of Army, Contracts Appeals Division. She served as a contracting officer and a grants officer with the Department of the Navy, the Office of Naval Research's Office of Contracts and Grants. Ms. Freeman also served as a procurement analyst at both the U.S. Coast Guard headquarters in the Office of Procurement Policy and Oversight and at the Federal Transit Administration's Office of Procurement on the Third Party Contracting and Policy team.

Ms. Freeman holds a Level III certification in Acquisition at both the Department of Defense and the Department of Transportation. She is a member of and has held leadership positions in several civic, community and professional organizations. In 2001 she was selected as the 2001 Maryland Business and Professional Woman of the Year.

Since 2002, she has been an adjunct professor in the Department of Business, teaching courses in procurement, contracts, human resources and management at Strayer University's Takoma Park, Alexandria and Prince George's campuses.

Tamika Gray

Tamika Gray joined the Veteran Administration's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) in March 2006 from the Office of Acquisition & Material Management, where she served as a contract specialist and a contracting officer. She also trained and served as a mentor to government-wide rotational interns.

She graduated from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore with a B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing. Upon graduation, she began her career as an Intern employed with a non-profit organization, Student Conservation Association (SCA), Vienna, VA. SCA placed Tamika with the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI),

Office of Acquisition and Property Management before entering into DOI's *Government-wide Acquisition Intern Management Program*, where she officially began her government career. The program consisted of four rotational assignments at: U.S. Coast Guard, National Institutes of Health, VA, and Health and Human Services before accepting a permanent position in 2001 with VA's Office of Acquisition & Material Management.

Tamika is a member of National Contract Management Association. She is enthusiastic, compassionate, and energetic and is genuinely committed to enhancing business opportunities for the entire small business community, especially service-disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned small businesses.

Tamika currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland.

Wanda L. Johnson

Wanda L. Johnson serves as the Assistant Regional Administrator (ARA) for the Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia, where she has executive responsibility for administrative programs. She is also the Director of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) where she oversees the execution of budget, contracts, grants, information technology, human capital and other services that support the agency's ability to effectively and efficiently carry out its mission. Ms Johnson is the senior official in EPA Region 4 responsible for ensuring that small, disadvantaged, and women-own firms are afforded their "fair share" through the implementation of the EPA policies and procedures.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Johnson served as the Deputy ARA for OPM, where she provided leadership for Human Capital, Information Technology and Enterprise Management.

Ms. Johnson has over 25 years of Federal service. Prior to joining the EPA, she served as a U.S. Department of the Army Civilian with the Signal Corps. She is a graduate of a myriad of Signal Corps, Commissioned Officer schools, the Department of the Army Management Staff College, the George Washington University School of Business and Public Management, the Federal Executive Institute, and the EPA Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program.

Ms. Johnson received her Bachelor's Degree, Cum Laude, in Management Information Systems from Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

Terry Lee Longworth

Terry Lee Longworth is the Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Lee & Ryan Environmental Consulting, Inc. (Lee & Ryan). The firm was founded in 1996 to provide

consulting services to the Petro-Chemical Industry particularly in the areas of Contaminant Assessment and Remediation. Since that time, Lee & Ryan has evolved into a full service Environmental, Construction, and Engineering firm. Lee & Ryan provides services to private clients and is a prime contractor for the Environmental Protection Agency, US Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and many other Government agencies.

Mr. Longworth began his environmental career while still serving on active duty with the U.S. Navy at Naval Weapon Station Goose Creek, South Carolina, where he served as command PCB Coordinator. Mr. Longworth served in the U.S. Navy from 1980-1991, when he was honorably discharged under medical conditions.

Mr. Longworth studied Environmental Management while attending Ball State University. Some of Mr. Longworth's other achievements include being a Lifetime Member of Disabled American Veterans, a Member of the Golden Key National Honor Society, a private aircraft pilot, a certified mixed air scuba diver, as well as being the owner of a construction company. Mr. Longworth resides in rural Indiana with his wife and their seven children.

Denise Rodriguez-Lopez

Denise Rodriguez-Lopez, an attorney, and a native of New York City, currently serves as the Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). In this capacity Denise works to ensure that small businesses (including veteran-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, minority, HUBZone, disadvantaged and women-owned businesses) have an equitable opportunity to participate in DOT's procurement programs, as well as to encourage, promote and assist small disadvantaged businesses in obtaining transportation-related contracts and subcontracts.

Prior to the Department of Transportation, Denise served as the Deputy Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. The Initiative provides support to the President's Advisory Commission, serves as a resource for information relating to the closing of the educational achievement gap of Hispanic Americans, and conducts considerable outreach in Hispanic communities bringing awareness about the educational opportunities available under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Before being appointed by President George W. Bush as the Initiative's Director of Policy Development, Denise served as the Director of Government Affairs and Legislative Policy in the Washington, DC office of the Cuban American National Council, a non-profit organization based out of Miami Florida that operates programs in employment training, affordable senior citizen housing, early childhood, as well as two high schools for at-risk youth. She has also held the position of Regional Offices Director for the Office of the Governor of Puerto Rico at the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration in Washington, DC, where she represented the Governor of Puerto Rico

and directed the work of nine regional offices located in eight states throughout the nation, and as Administrative Counsel for the Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority.

Denise holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and obtained her Juris Doctor at the University of Puerto Rico Law School. She is currently working on her Masters of Law degree in Government Contracts at the George Washington University Law School.

Jonathan V. Newton

Jonathan V. Newton is OSDBU's Minority Academic Institutions Coordinator. He started college at Georgetown University, but transferred the University of Maryland earning a B.A. in Criminal Justice *cum laude*. Jonathan earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1994 and is currently pursuing a Masters in Divinity at Virginia Union University.

After law school Jonathan was accepted into the U.S. Attorney General's Honor Program where he clerked for the Chief Administrative Law Judge at the Drug Enforcement Administration. Following the clerkship he served as an Assistant District Attorney in his hometown, Bronx, New York. Jonathan's EPA career began in 1996 as part of the Office of General Counsel's Information Law Practice Group. He has also served as counsel to the Environmental Appeals Board, Adjunct Faculty at EPA's Trial Advocacy Institute, Special Assistant to EPA's Deputy Chief of Staff, and a Congressional Fellow (EPA funded) in the Office of Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

Lamont O. Norwood

Mr. Norwood is the Direct Procurement Team Leader at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Small Disadvantaged Business Utilization Office (OSDBU). Mr. Norwood joined the OSDBU staff in August 2005. Prior to coming to the EPA, he spent four years as the Small Business Specialist at the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, specializing in working with small businesses, and ensuring that the Agency met its socioeconomic goals. Mr. Norwood has an extensive background in federal government contracting. He served as a Contracting Officer/Contract Specialist for the Department of Transportation and for the Defense Logistic Agency. While at the Department of Transportation, former DOT Secretary Norman Mineta awarded Mr. Norwood the Department's "Thanks a Million Award" for negotiating and awarding 52 mission critical Cooperative Agreements for the Fatality Analysis Reporting System with all 50 States, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

Joe Ochab

Joe Ochab has been working as a Management and Program Analyst for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency since 1995 where he has provided liaison,

environmental compliance, and procurement assistance services to small businesses within EPA's Pacific Southwest Region (9). This Region serves the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, and Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, and Tribal Nations. As Region 9's Minority Business Enterprise/Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) Coordinator, Joe currently oversees efforts taken by the Agency's grant recipients to utilize small and disadvantaged companies when buying construction, equipment, supplies, and services on their EPA-funded projects. Joe is also the Region's Small Business Advocate, promoting the use of small businesses in Region 9's direct procurement activities and advising small firms on how to market their products and services to the Agency. He holds a B.S. degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Kimberly Y. Patrick

Kimberly Yvonne Patrick is a native Washingtonian and a proud product of the DC Public School System. She is a 1993 graduate of Spelman College with a Bachelors of Science degree in physics. Ms. Patrick received her Juris Doctorate in 1996, from the Howard University School of Law. Kimberly began her legal career with EPA in the Office of Grants and Debarment as Debarment Counsel, where she protected the government's business interests by initiating suspension and debarment actions, and negotiating settlement agreements, including payments to the government in excess of \$1 million dollars. While with the Suspension and Debarment Division, she completed a detail to the Office of Administration and Resources Management as special assistant to the Assistant Administrator. In 2001, Kimberly joined the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, where she currently functions as legal counsel, handling issues concerning EPA's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Rule and other legal issues related to small, minority and women owned business, and as Team Leader for the Indirect Procurement Team.

Samuel C. Peterson

Mr. Samuel C. Peterson, an attorney and current SEE Contractor Program Analyst, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization joined the OSDDBU staff in January, 2006. Prior to the EPA, he spent several years as a contract attorney to major law firms in the Washington D.C. area. He has an extensive background in federal government contracting. He has served as a Contract Specialist with the Department of the Army's Transportation Division and also as the Contract Compliance Officer to a major general construction contracting corporation.

Ilene P. Rubio

Ilene P. Rubio is the Assistant District Director for the 8(a) Business Development Division of the U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA's) South Florida District Office. As such, she has oversight responsibility for the management of the division and the implementation of the SBA's 8(a) program functions. Prior to her current position of Assistant District Director for the 8(a) Business Development Division, Ms. Rubio served as the Marketing Manager for Service Area 1 of the district office where she had oversight responsibility for the implementation of marketing and outreach activities in the counties of Broward, Collier, Hendry, Lee, Miami-Dade, and Monroe. Ms. Rubio has a distinguished federal government career with almost 20 years of service. She joined SBA in March 1998 and has served as Interim Director of the Disney/SBA National Entrepreneur Center in Orlando, Florida; Loan Officer and Lender Relations Manager, Microloan Program Manager, SCORE Program Manager, Women's Business Owners Representative, and Marketing Executive-Emerging Markets.

Mr. Steve Schwartz

Mr. Schwartz joined EPA in 1992 and has worked in Budget, Contract Support, Grant Support, and general Program Administration. Since March 2006, he has served as the Senior contracts staff person in one of EPA's largest offices, OPPTS. In this position, he is responsible for all Strategic Planning and oversight of their contracts. OPPTS is an Agency leader in support of Small Business and has received numerous awards for their accomplishments in this area.

Mr. Schwartz is a magna cum laude graduate of Mankato State University, holding degrees in Environmental Science and Business Administration. Mr. Schwartz began his career with the Dept of Army and spent 15 years in several Army and Navy organizations working in a variety of jobs, including: Inventory Management, Transportation, Project Officer, IT Systems Development, and International Contracts.

Mr. Schwartz has a unique background that includes experience in a wide range of areas. He has received numerous awards for the work he's performed, including recognition from the Secretary of Defense and several EPA Bronze Medal Commendations. Steve's interests include travel, photography, scuba diving, and model rocketry.

Denise Benjamin Sirmons, Esq.

Denise Benjamin Sirmons currently serves as the Director of the Office of Acquisition Management at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In that capacity, she is responsible for the policies, procedures, operations and support of the Agency's procurement and contracts management program, from contract planning through closeout. She also serves as the Procurement Executive for the Agency.

Before joining EPA, Ms. Benjamin Sirmons was the Assistant General Counsel for Contracting in the Office of General Counsel at the U.S. Small Business Administration. As the Assistant General Counsel, Ms. Benjamin Sirmons was responsible for counseling Agency officials on all aspects of Federal government contracting, including contract formation and administration, bid protests and contract claims. She also assisted in drafting regulations and in providing legal advice and support in the administration of the HUBZone program, the 8(a) Business Development and Small Disadvantaged Business program, the Size Standards and Size Policy programs, the Small Business Innovation and Research program, the Certificate of Competency program and other small business contracting programs. Ms. Benjamin Sirmons further served as Agency counsel in administrative litigation involving procurement matters.

While at SBA, Ms. Benjamin Sirmons further served as SBA's Acting Associate Administrator for Government Contracting and for the Office of Policy, Planning and Liaison. In those positions, she oversaw the implementation of SBA's small business prime contracting and subcontracting assistance programs, and the development of policies and procedures to maximize Federal contracting opportunities for small business concerns.

Before joining SBA, Ms. Benjamin Sirmons worked as a litigation attorney for the law firm of Preston Gates & Ellis in Washington, D.C. She also worked as an associate in the Washington, D.C. office of the law firm Reed Smith. At both firms, Ms. Benjamin Sirmons represented commercial companies, government contractors, trade associations and charitable organizations on various corporate, business, transactional, and litigation matters.

Ms. Benjamin Sirmons earned a Master of Laws Degree in Government Procurement Law, with High Honors, from The George Washington University Law School. She also received a Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Howard University Law School, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Angela Suber

Ms. Suber is currently serving as the Acting EPA Small Business Ombudsman (SBO). Angela has over thirty years experience working with EPA, primarily in the areas of policy and regulatory development. She joined the SBO program in January 1999 as a Special Assistant to the SBO and Division Director coordinating administrative, outreach, and assistance activities. She makes recommendations to senior management on projects that increase compliance assistance and incentives to the small business community. Prior to joining the Small Business Ombudsman program, Angela served as Special Assistant to the Director of the Office of Regulatory Management and Information. She also worked for many years as a desk officer for regulatory development activities, was involved in managing and improving the Agency's regulatory development process, and providing analytical support to senior management and staff on regulatory management issues. In 1978, Ms. Suber graduated from Howard University, where she received her bachelor's degree in Education.

Celia Vaughn

Ms. Celia M. Vaughn is currently the Acting Division Director of the US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Acquisition Management, Superfund/RCRA Regional Procurement Operations Division (SRRPOD), leading the oversight and management at the Headquarters level of nationwide procurement actions, and the implementation of emergency contracting policies and procedures, in support primarily of the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER).

She joined the US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Acquisition Management, in January 1999, after serving a progression of acquisition management assignments with the Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, D.C.; the DoD Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), High Performance Computing Modernization Office (HPCMO), Washington, D.C.; the Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance, RDTE Division, San Diego, CA (now part of SPAWAR); and, the Defense Contract Administration Service Plant Representative Office (DCASPRO) General Dynamics, San Diego, CA.

Ms. Vaughn holds an M.B.A., with Management emphasis, a B.A. in Linguistics, and has completed post graduate course work in Transformational Leadership.

Paula Zampieri

Paula is a graduate of the University of Vermont with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Planning and a concentration in Environmental Policy and Law. While in Vermont, she interned with the Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility, working closely with their policy director and lobbyist at the Vermont State House. After moving to Washington, DC she began working with an online environmental newsletter as their editorial and staff manager before finally entering into government with the EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.